

Dear Families,

"The most important thing that schools can do is not to use technology in the curriculum more, but to use it more effectively."

Urs Gasser



The above quote just has to resonate with teachers and parents in our community. Like many schools, we have spent quite a lot of time and money keeping our software and hardware up to date with the latest technology. We have sought to improve our ratio of computers (including laptops, iPads). In 2017 we seek to have students to a point where we have one device per student in Years 4 to 6 and one device to approximately three students in Prep to Year 3.

It is important to us that we allow our students the opportunity to use a range of technologies in the classroom and for it to be readily available to them. We are, after all, teaching a generation of children whose futures will be predominantly online. However, what we use our technology for – and how we are integrating in into our curriculum effectively – is what is important.

Beginning in Prep and in subsequent years, we teach our students basic technology skills such as how to log in to websites like Reading Eggs; as well as how to go about opening documents, save them to files, and find and edit them for future use. By the time students reach Years 4, 5 and 6 they have personal emails that are regulated by the school, as well as the opportunity to create blogs and digital presentations for their units of work.

Another area that we, as a school, devote our time to is CyberSafety. We know that some of our students are using social media, despite their age. We also know how important it is for today's students to be aware of their digital footprint. Everything we post can be seen by anyone. There are many resources available across many platforms that support schools in teaching their students about the importance of being safe online. At St Joseph's we seek to provide detailed, substantiated policies and agreements to our community about safety with technology, and expect our students to use technology – both at school and at home – in an age-appropriate and positive way. Please do not hesitate to contact us about how your children are using technology – it is an area that our school is very passionate about. Because of our commitment to this area of the curriculum we are very well placed to prepare our kids for the digital world they currently live in, and the digital world of the future that remains unknown.

There is no doubt that our kids here at St Joseph's are advancing their skills very well. At this point the school seeks feedback from our parent community on the provision of 1:1 devices in Years 3 – 6 for 2017.

I ask all parents to respond to the following questions with their thoughts on how we progress in the future with the provision of technology for the students. Your feedback will assist us in making the best decision around the purchase of software and devices for the 2017 school year and further into the future. These 3 questions will be sent out in a separate email so that you are able respond to our questions.

Could I ask parents to have these responses to me by next Wednesday, 16th November.

Feedback sought:

1. Do you agree that we need to continue to increase the ratio of devices available to the children at school to support them in their educational needs? YES/ NO
2. Would you support the purchase of 1:1 devices in Years 3- 6 ? YES /NO
3. Provision of 1: 1 devices in Years 3 – 6 will increase the ratio of school owned devices available to students in P – 3.
Would you be willing to enter into an agreed payment plan of between \$10 and \$15 dollars per week over 3 years to give your child a personal device of their own fulltime in Year 3 -6? YES / NO

I thank you in advance for your valuable feedback.

Swimming Carnival next Thursday

Don't forget our swimming carnival next Thursday 17th from 4 – 8 pm. There will be a P & F sausage sizzle available on the night for families. A separate email will go home with the swimming program and further details of the night. Mrs Melanie Turner has put a wonderful effort into the organisation of the swimming program for St Joseph's this term and the swimming carnival will be a great way to see the improvements in the children's swimming. A big thankyou to the many parents who have come along each week to assist with the swimming program. We can't offer these activities for the kids without your assistance and support.



Starry Starry Night

Please keep the Starry Starry Night thanksgiving event on Thursday 24th November in your calendar. The children are looking forward to sharing something special with their families on this night.

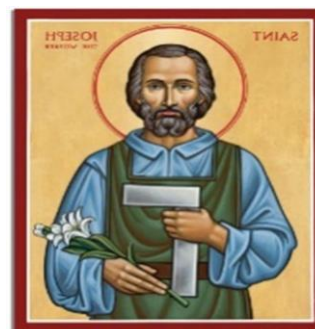
Every Blessing for a great week ahead.

Rosie



News from the APRE

Week 6 Term 4



As our year draws to a close, I would like to gently remind everyone of some of the things happening over the next two weeks.

A prayer service was held at Assembly today to commemorate those who gave their lives in service to our country. The Year 3 students conducted themselves with reverence and made this a special time for all to remember.

- Preparation is also under way for the writing of report cards for Semester 2. Report cards are one way that teachers provide feedback to parents about their child's learning. We are reminded that many of the important aspects of learners can't be formally assessed and that these reports are summative by nature – they don't tell the full story. If you wish to clarify anything about your child's progress please make an appointment to speak with the class teacher.

- As the year draws to a close, we are also getting closer to having our Parent portal live for 2017. This will become the main place for a range of information and services for current parents. It is envisaged that families will be sent a link in Term 1 2017 and at the end of each semester the report cards will be accessible online.

Over these last 2 weeks the school will be making contact if needed, to make sure that all email addresses are correct. So if you have had any change in details recently please advise the office ASAP.

Finally an invitation is extended to all families to join us on the last day of school at 11.00 am to be a part of our final Liturgy for 2017. Father Dariusz will be in attendance to help us celebrate what a wonderful and amazing year with all that we have accomplished.



Thank you and blessings for a great weekend,
Amanda

Year 3 News

This week Year 3 presented the Remembrance Day Liturgy

On the 11 November 1918, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the armistice was signed which signalled the end of the hostilities for World War 1, then known as the Great War. From that day on the day, then known as Armistice Day.

The Flanders poppy became accepted throughout the allied nations as the flower of remembrance to be worn on Armistice Day. The red poppies were among the first plants that sprouted from the devastation of the battlefields of northern France and Belgium. Wearing poppies helps us show our respect for those who have died.

Each year, we gather at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, and pause to reflect, to give honour to the memories of those who have died for their country.

For the Fallen

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.
Laurence Binyon (1869 – 1943)



*School Announcements

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

17th November Twilight Swimming Carnival 4pm – 8pm

21st November – 25th November Laurel Eden, School Counsellor visit

24th November Starry, Starry Variety Night 6pm

25th November Last Day Term 4 school finishes at 12pm

School resumes 23rd January 2017

OUR SCHOOL IS AN ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

We have a number of children at school who have allergies to specific foods as well as some with nut allergies. Whilst sharing is a thoughtful and generous offer, sharing of food can make another child very sick. Please refer to the Allergy Aware Policy on our school webpage for further information.

[AllergyAwareness](#)

Last day of Term 4

Our last day at St Joseph's is Friday 25th November, school will be finishing at 12pm on this day.

11.00am Assembly & Liturgy

*Community Announcements



Weipa Local Disaster Management Group

Storm Surge Shelter Open Day

The cyclone season is here again so please join us at the Storm Surge Shelter Open Day!

Come and have a chat to one of our Weipa Disaster Management staff about your family and pet's emergency plan and to understand your evacuation options.

Saturday, 12th November 2016
From 10.30am - 1:00pm
At Hibberd Drive, Rocky Point

**Sausage sizzle and light refreshments available*
**Live music*
**Live fire displays by the Rural Fire Services*
**Emergency kit raffle, donated by Weipa SES*

For further information on how you can Get Ready visit: www.getready.qld.gov.au

For up-to-date cyclone information tune into ABC Radio (1044AM) or log onto www.bom.gov.au



 Find us on Facebook

(07) 4030 9400 • 1 Hibberd Drive, Rocky Point
Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:00pm

www.weipatownauthority.com.au

Do You or Your Children Cycle to School?

Would You Like to Do So?

WTA is currently seeking feedback on our cycle and walking paths, who are the users, where and how do they use the paths and where they think the paths need to be improved. We have a survey on survey monkey that is open until 18 November, click on the link below.

<http://www.weipatownauthority.com.au/sport-and-recreation>



Community Cycling and Walking Survey

We want your feedback and improvement ideas on the paths in Weipa!

The survey can be completed by following the link on the WTA website homepage.

The survey closes on Friday 18th November 2016.

For more information contact the WTA on 4030 9400



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Class News

Prep News

Preps had a wonderful day at the Napranum Kindy for the Under 8's Wet Day activities on Wednesday. St Joseph's felt very privileged to be invited to this enjoyable day of activities for their youngest learners. The day was a huge success with a fun-filled variety of activities including goop, slime, water slides, fishing competition, face painting, pirate treasure hunt and much more.

The Prep children, staff and helpers thoroughly enjoyed being able to share in this amazing day. We greatly appreciate the enormous effort that went into the preparation to ensure the success of the day for all the children who attended. St Joseph's look forward to other opportunities to join together in the future. Thank you from St Joseph's to all the wonderful people at Napranum. And a big thank you to those families who joined us to help out on the day.

Preps learnt about Remembrance Day. They made their own poppies to wear and held a minutes silence at school.

Year 2 News

In Maths we have spent the week measuring, comparing and estimating the weight, length and area of different objects, places and events that are real to our lives. We have problem solved filling the weight of shopping bags in pairs, worked out the length of our bodies, classroom and even parts of the school. The students are much more aware of units of measurement now and how they relate to everyday situations. Much satisfaction has been gained from every student at successfully finishing and printing off their narrative story individually which has been a big task. Everyone has learnt so many ICT skills this term about producing a Word doc to present a written task. We have enjoyed using the ipads for some new apps, especially Targeting Maths and the team challenge.

Rest up everyone for an exciting week ahead!

Year 4/5/6 News

In 4/5/6 this week we have been focusing on finishing our assessment tasks for Term 4. We all cannot believe how fast this Term has gone and that there are only 2 weeks left of school. We have all made stars for the "One Million Stars to End Violence" campaign lead by the Community Centre. These stars will be collected and then displayed at the 2018 Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast. Miss Jade taught us two weeks ago how to make them and whilst the stars were tricky at first, we now have it down to a fine art and can make them very quickly.

Year 1 News

This week in year one students began Reading Eggs on the iPads and laptops and have been progressing at their own individual levels. We each planned a Recount by working out who, what, when, where and why we go to swimming lessons at the pool. We then completed a written Recount using our plan. We drew diagrams about how vibration causes sound waves that travel through the air to our ears. We talked about how light reflects in order for us to see it and wrote about why a place can be either light or dark. We drew three different patterns that were growing in size or number and repeating in colours. We have begun to practise a class song for the whole school Starry Starry Night event.

We respectfully observed a two minute silence for Remembrance Day.

Physical Education

The students have been busily finishing off Semester 2 Units this week and have been working on their assessment pieces.

Today was the second last Swimming Lesson for the term and next week we have the St. Joseph's Swimming Carnival on Thursday 17th November at 4.00 – 8.00pm - (more details early next week).

If you are able to assist with Water Supervision or the BBQ, please email me on j.turner@cns.catholic.edu.au
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** STAR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK **

Prep... Toby Abood, Tre Bobongie & Ewa Mc Namara

Year 1... Jimmy James Cox & Amy Stone

Year 2... Luke Clegg, Mia McLeish & Daniel Scarabello

Year 3... Kunio Sagigi & Jay West

Year 4 5 6.... Brianna Peet & Ava Steele



Humility, Justice, Compassion

St Joseph's Parish School

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